

error detection means for detecting occurrence of an error during a copying process; and

medium ejection control means which, at the end of a copying process, ejects a copying medium or media on which information has been copied successfully without an error from said copying-medium recording means while leaving a copying medium or media which encountered an error during the copying process in said copying-medium recording means.

2. An information recording and reproducing apparatus including a master medium reproducing means for reading information from a master medium, and a plurality of copying-medium recording means for writing information read from said master medium simultaneously onto a plurality of copying media thereby copying information from said master medium to said plurality of copying media, said apparatus including copying operation controlling means, said copying operation controlling means comprising:

medium mounting detection means for detecting whether or not a master medium is mounted in said master medium reproducing means;

copying process starting means for starting a copying process in response to the detection of the mounting of the master medium;

error detection means for detecting occurrence of an error during a copying process; and

medium ejection control means which, at the end of a copying process, ejects a master medium from which information has been copied successfully without an error from said master medium recording means, and also ejects a copying medium or media on which information has been copied successfully without an error from said copying-medium recording means while leaving a medium or media which encountered an error during the copying process in said master medium reproducing means or in said copying-medium recording means.

3. An information recording and reproducing apparatus including a master medium reproducing means for reading information from a master medium, and a plurality of copying-medium recording means for writing information read from said master medium simultaneously onto a plurality of copying media thereby copying information from said master medium to said plurality of copying media, said apparatus including copying operation controlling means, said copying operation controlling means comprising:

medium mounting detection means for detecting whether or not a master medium is mounted in said master medium reproducing means;

copying process starting means for starting a copying process in response to the detection of the mounting of the master medium; and

means for indicating the percentage of a copying process which has already been performed by said copying operation controlling means.

4. An information recording and reproducing apparatus including a master medium reproducing means for reading information from a master medium, and a plurality of copying-medium recording means for writing information read from said master medium simultaneously onto a plurality of copying media thereby copying information from said master medium to said plurality of copying media, said apparatus including copying operation controlling means, said copying operation controlling means comprising:

medium mounting detection means for detecting whether or not a master medium is mounted in said master medium reproducing means;

copying process starting means for starting a copying process in response to the detection of the mounting of the master medium; and

means for indicating the number of media on which information has been copied successfully without an error by said copying operation controlling means.

5. An information recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 1, further including error warning means for giving warning of occurrence of an error if an error has occurred during a copying process performed by said copying operation controlling means.

6. An information recording and reproducing apparatus including master medium reproducing means for reading information from a master medium, and a plurality of copying-medium recording means for writing information read from said master medium onto a plurality of copying media thereby copying information from said master medium to said plurality of copying media, said apparatus including copying operation controlling means, said copying operation controlling means including:

medium mounting detection means for detecting whether a master medium is mounted in said master medium reproducing means and also detecting whether copying media are mounted in said copying-medium recording means;

initialization process checking means for checking whether initialization processes associated with said master medium reproducing means and said plurality of copying-medium recording means have been performed successfully without an error; and

copying process starting means for starting a copying process provided that:

a copying medium is mounted in copying-medium recording means, the initialization process associated with said copying-medium recording means has been performed already, and said copying-medium recording means is in a ready state; and

a master medium is mounted in the master medium reproducing means, the initialization process associated with said master medium reproducing means has been performed already, and said master medium reproducing means is in a ready state.

7. An information recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said initialization processes associated with said copying-medium recording means and said master medium reproducing means include a process of reproducing information from control tracks of copying media and the master medium thereby detecting medium information, said medium information including information about the storage capacity of the media.

8. An information recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said copying operation controlling means further includes medium capacity comparison means for comparing the storage capacity of the mounted copying media with the storage capacity of the mounted master medium on the basis of information derived as a result of the initialization process associated with said copying-medium recording means and said master medium reproducing means, and wherein said copying process starting means is adapted to start a copying process if the storage capacity of the copying media is equal to or greater than that of the master medium.

9. An information recording and reproducing apparatus according to claim 6, said copying-medium recording means and said master medium reproducing means each include their own drive controller for controlling said initialization process.